


5 February 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, Survey Branch

SUBJECT : Speech by General Powers

1. Reference is made to the recent public statement by General Powers concerning Soviet missile capabilities and the statement that 300 bombers could ruin America. General Powers has been criticized by various persons for having made such a statement and it was contended that this was at variance with other facts.

2. I have been advised that General Powers submitted the manuscript of his speech to the Department of Defense, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff made certain changes. General White, of the Air Force, did not agree with all of these changes and directed General Powers to go ahead with the speech with the personal approval of General White. The Department of Defense did not effect an official release of the speech.

  
Acting Director of Security

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